

Message Text

SECRET

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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 011931

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR

SUBJECT: THE SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR.

1. ON JANUARY 12 FRENCH AMBASSADOR KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET PAID A BRIEF CALL ON THE SECRETARY FOR THE PURPOSE OF INFORMING THE SECRETARY ABOUT DECISIONS TAKEN BY GISCARD CONCERNING THE LATTER'S MAY VISIT.

2. KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET SAID THAT GISCARD WOULD INCLUDE YORKTOWN, PHILADELPHIA, HOUSTON, LAFAYETTE (LA.) AND NEW ORLEANS IN HIS ITINERARY. (EARLIER IN THE DAY KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET HAD HELD A "BICENTENNIAL PRESS CONFERENCE" AT THE EMBASSY, IN WHICH HE HAD OUTLINED NUMEROUS ASPECTS OF FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN THE BICENTENNIAL, INCLUDING THE GISCARD VISIT).

3. KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET RAISED THE PROBLEM OF CONCORDE LANDING
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RIGHTS. HE SAID THAT HE FEARED AN IMPENDING MAJOR CRISIS

WITHIN PUBLIC OPINION, TINGED WITH ANTI-AMERICANISM, IF LANDING RIGHTS WERE WITHHELD. THE SECRETARY INDICATED THAT HE SHARED CONCERN ABOUT THE MATTER AND HAD CONVEYED THAT CONCERN TO SECRETARY COLEMAN. KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THESE EFFORTS.

4. OTHER TOPICS DISCUSSED BRIEFLY INCLUDED ANGOLA, WITH KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET EMPHASIZING THE SIMILARITY OF US AND FRENCH VIEWS ON THE SITUATION; THE ZAIRE MINING PROJECT NOW BEFORE THE WORLD BANK, WITH KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET ASKING FOR CONTINUED US SUPPORT BEFORE THE BANK; THE MIDDLE EAST; THE SECRETARY'S MOSCOW TRIP; AND THE ITALIAN SITUATION.

5. ON DEPARTING KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET LEFT AN AIDE-MEMOIRE CONCERNING THE APPLICATION OF AIR FRANCE TO INAUGURATE SERVICES BETWEEN NEW YORK AND CANCUN (YUCATAN). KISSINGER

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